

From: Daryn Sharp
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/20/01 7:12pm
Subject: comments on the "settlement"

To whom it concerns:

I do not believe the proposed settlement is satisfactory. The spirit of the agreement attempts to restrain Microsoft from continuing some of its most flagrant behaviours, but yet it fails to effectively create a framework that will realize any tangible goal.

For instance, nearly every provision provides vaguely defined definitions and exceptions. Microsoft's conduct and justifications since the first antitrust suit have demonstrated that they will capitalize upon any available loophole.

The terms of access to the "communication interfaces" are terrible at best. These APIs are one of Microsoft's strongest weapons against competitors. Allowing Microsoft to deny access based upon the "viability of their business model" and other similiarly bogus exceptions nullifies the provision.

All of the OS-level APIs and application file formats should be fully documented and accessible by any individual or company. This is the only way to ensure that interoperable products may truly begin to exist and compete.

Given no punishment, Microsoft has little deterrent to stepstep the spirit of this new agreement. Past history has shown that behavioural remedies have not worked with Microsoft. Microsoft should be disciplined for their "crimes" in such a manner that will deter them from attempting to violate this new agreement. Letting them off with nothing more than a scolding will result in yet another antritrust suit in the near future. History will repeat itself yet again.

Upset would be a mild term to describe my dismay with the suggested settlement. I've watched this drama unfold for nearly a decade now, and I'm extremely disappointed that this is best settlement proposal that could be reached.

May I please have my wasted tax dollars back?

Sincerely,

Daryn Sharp

=====

Daryn

Do You Yahoo!?

Yahoo! GeoCities - quick and easy web site hosting, just \$8.95/month.

<http://geocities.yahoo.com/ps/info1>